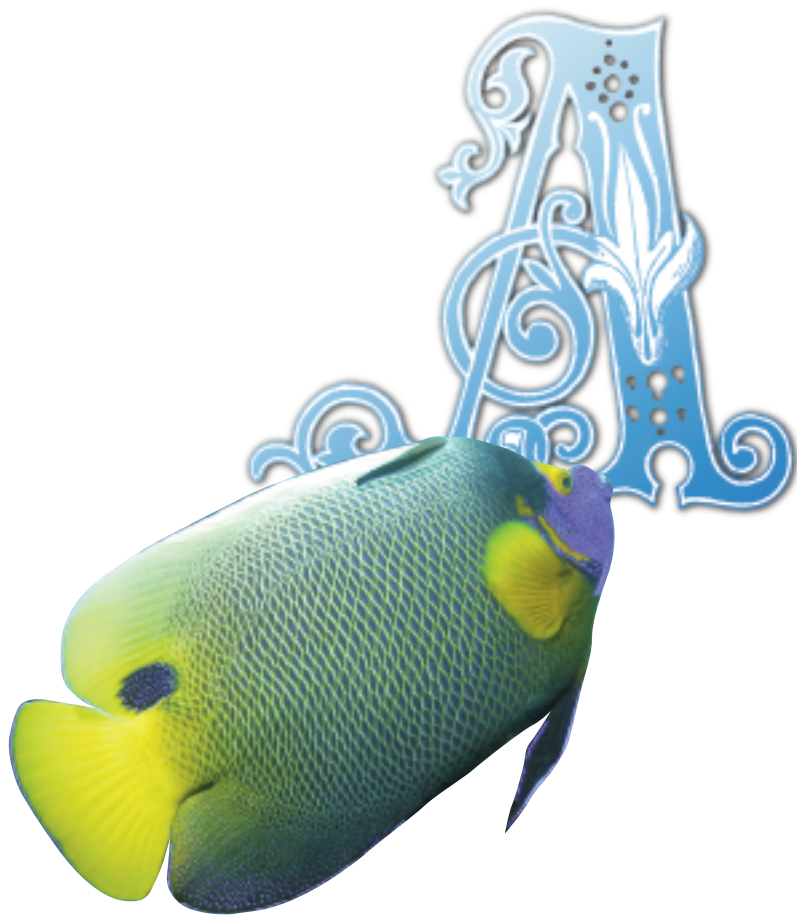


# Sulgrave News



August 2007

## We very nearly capsized!

That will teach me to joke about the summer weather. Cats, dogs, pigs, cows, is there anything else it can throw at us!

Appletree Cottage was rescued by Diana, who sandbagged the living room door and bailed for all she was worth to stop the rain draining into the house, until I could get home from work. She looked worn out when I arrived, and quite tearful about the near futility of keeping nature at bay. Our sympathy goes out to anyone who didn't succeed in holding back the water, especially those in Helmdon. The television images were heartbreaking.

There are one or two local events coming up during this month, so lets hope things are now going to get a little better.

I'm a bit lazy about responding to your emails, so if you would like an acknowledgement to confirm that I've received your information please remind me to do so at the end of your message.

Once again a reminder about the email address for the Sulgrave Newsletter. It is

**newsletter@84f.com**

## Deadline for the SEPTEMBER newsletter - 24th August.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER CAN BE LEFT AT THE VILLAGE SHOP.

*Could I remind all contributors to provide a name and contact number with their articles- Thanks*



**Tom Cockeram**, editor

Appletree Cottage, The Close, Greatworth, Banbury, OX17 2EB  
Telephone 01295 711326, or email newsletter@84f.com

This Newsletter is an independent publication, edited and compiled by Tom Cockeram. It is delivered free of charge to all houses in Sulgrave and Stutchbury by Ann & Peter Mackness, George Metcalfe and Vera Smith. Costs are met by Sulgrave Parish Council. It is provided as a service to the community and those involved in its production cannot accept responsibility for omissions and errors, or necessarily agree with its contents.

## Regular Events

Mums & Tots	Every Friday in the Church Hall, 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
BB&C Service	2nd Sunday of the month at Culworth Church, 11:00 am
Book Club	4th Monday of each month at the Star Inn, 8:00 pm
Circle Dancing	3rd Thursday of the month at Culworth, 7:30 pm
W.I.	2nd Wednesday of each month at the Church Hall, 7:30 pm



## Sulgrave Village Allotments



Maybe you've already considered that:

- Keeping and allotment is fun!
- Growing your own fruit and vegetables is rewarding!
- Keeping an allotment helps you keep fit!
- Keeping an allotment is sociable

So perhaps you, or someone you know, would like to keep an allotment and would like to help the Parish Council address the following issues?

- The allocation of plots (Measured survey is expected soon)
- The number and size of plots available
- Allotment fees
- Consultation on the need to improve boundary fences and their design
- Drainage of the Site
- The provision of water to the site
- Measures to address potential overgrowing vegetation while preserving the attractive character of established trees and hedges
- Nature conservation/pest control
- The need for a focus group to coordinate resources

If you can help, or have comments to make please contact;  
Cllr. Andrew Waite, Sulgrave Parish Council,  
07787 502260  
afwaite@gmail.com

## Village Walk

Due to very bad conditions on the paths to Greatworth the previously advertised walk didn't take place, and there is difficulty in rescheduling the event. Please watch this space for further details.



## Cat Flap Burglars On The Prowl

Cat owners are being warned about the latest method being used by burglars to get into people's homes – reaching through cat flaps to get keys from the inside of doors.

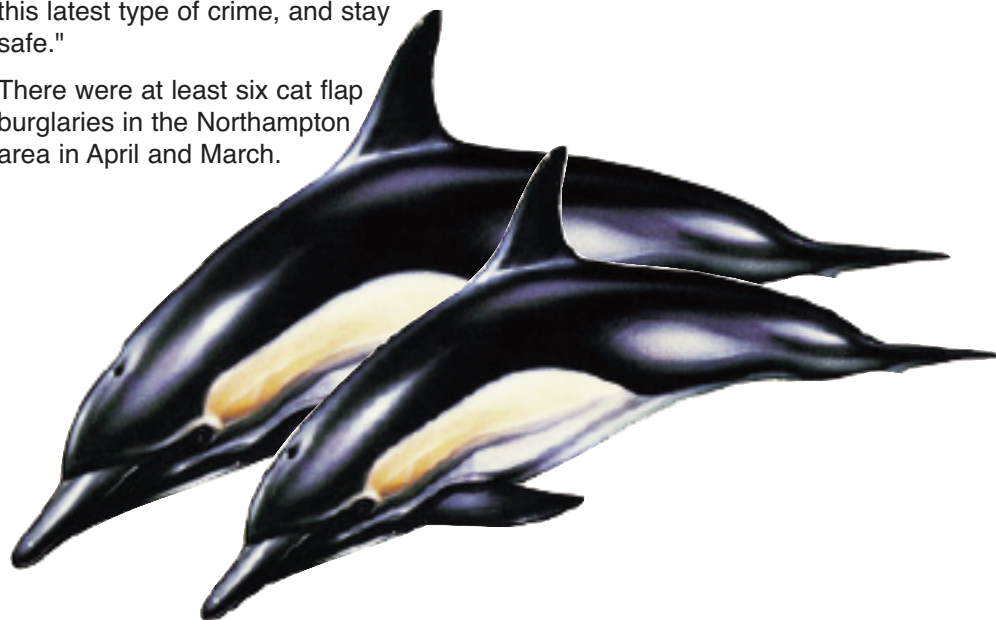
Posters and leaflets are being delivered to supermarkets across the Northampton area – hoping to target people as they buy their cat food – urging them never to leave keys in doors, or on view, or easily accessible inside homes.

Community Safety Officer for the Northamptonshire West Police Area, Kate Wright, who is co-ordinating this crime prevention campaign, said: "There have been a number of burglaries in the Northampton area recently where offenders have simply reached through cat flaps to access keys and then get into the homes, mostly looking for car keys and then stealing cars.

"Cat owners, and indeed all householders, need to keep doors locked at all times, even when you are at home, take keys out of doors and hide them.

"Remember locks are not called locks for nothing – they need to be locked. We want people to stay alert to this latest type of crime, and stay safe."

There were at least six cat flap burglaries in the Northampton area in April and March.



## Update on Castle Green Project

from Parish Council meeting held on 12th July 2007  
Cllr Pollak gave a progress report on the work at Castle Green.

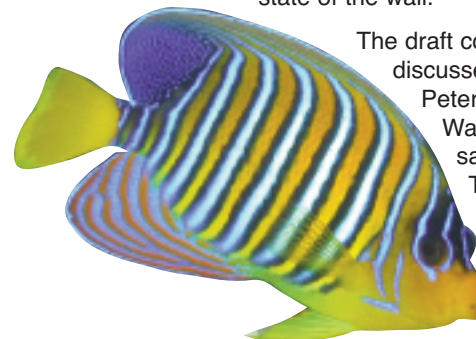
### Path Project

The path is now complete except it needs to be mown twice, and then the contractor will roll it. A draft invoice for the work on the path has been received. The total cost is £15,711.00 including VAT and it has been agreed to be correct. Total funding received was £15,941.00 so there is a surplus of £230.00. With regard to the archaeological watching brief, it was understood that the path and wall would be watched at the same time. However this was not possible. Also more digging was needed for the DDA legislation. The archaeologist was there for four days. His day rate is £170.00 and then he needed to write up his finds and publish the results of the exploration. This resulted in an extra one and half days work at a charge of £935.00. The surplus of £230.00 will be put towards this work and £705.00 will be taken from the contingency fund.

### Wall Project

The wall contractors have been very hard to get hold of as the Director had been involved in a serious car accident. The company were told they could not start without a contract but ignored this information. A lorry then drove across the green and damaged the path. The wall company have admitted liability to repair the path but there was concern that the guarantee could be affected, so it is hoped that the Wall contractor will pay the path company to repair it.

A site meeting was held on 4th July with Cllr Roberts, Cllr Pollak, Peter Pollak, Martin Sirot-Smith, Project Management Representative and the Director of Wall Contract Company. The foreman showed there were no foundations, and the stone was in poor condition, cannot be rebuilt as it is. It was decided that a dry stone wall would not hold the high banks up, and the best solution would be to put in a concrete block wall instead of the inner layer of dry stone walling. The contractor said wall was in a worse condition than when he first saw it and the suggested solution would cost more. Cllrs Roberts and Pollak had emphasised that there was a fixed amount of funding for the wall., Several actions from the meeting on 4th July have not been taken by the contractor and management company, despite being chased regularly by Cllr Pollak. The benefit of this meeting was that the Castle Green Committee found out the exact state of the wall.



The draft contract for the work on the wall was discussed at a meeting attended by Cllr Pollak, Peter Pollak and Cllrs Waite and Kellett. Cllrs Waite and Kellett advised that the contract was satisfactory, but not the tender documents. They felt that to sign the contract could leave the Committee open to extras. They have recommended to Cllr Pollak that the scope of works should be renegotiated before the contract is signed.

## Historic Sulgrave Charities Documents

Anyone with an interest in either their family history within this village or village history might like to know that I have deposited some documents with the Archivist at Northamptonshire County Records Office, Wotton Hall, Northampton. These date from c1750 to c2000.

The Record Office aims to ensure the safe preservation of archives and to make those archives available for research. They have a carefully controlled environment where both humidity and temperature are constant. It is free of pests and all paperwork is stored in acid free boxes to minimise any further deterioration.

The documents will probably not be catalogued for about 6 months, but even so are available to view now at the records office. If you would like to see any of the records please contact the County Archivist on: 01604 762129, or email or visit the website at: E-mail: [archivist@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:archivist@northamptonshire.gov.uk).

Website: [http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/Community/record/about\\_us.htm](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/Community/record/about_us.htm)

In general, the papers are details of donations from the Charities, through the ages. In the beginning, this was in the form of Bread Money. Poor families received a loaf of bread per week, there is a book containing the names of all recipients. This ceased in the early 1930's.

There are details from the 20th century of Coat and Cap money given to boys who passed their 11+ exam and therefore won a place at a Grammar School. There is also information relating to donations made to apprentices to purchase equipment or tools for their trade.

Sulgrave History Society have copied some of the more interesting documents and I have read most of the documents, so if you are looking for something in particular and would like to know if there are any records relating, please do not hesitate to contact me.

*Jill Barrett, Chair of Trustees, Sulgrave Charities:- 01295 768335*

**DID YOU KNOW:**  
PETERM  
POOCLO  
VERPA  
TIENCE

In 1997, at Sydney Airport, Australia, David Huxley pulled a 187-tonne Boeing 747-400 a distance of 91m. He had previously hauled a Boeing 737 and a Concorde.

In 2005, US arm-wrestler Ed Shelton ripped up 55 telephone directories, each 1044 pages thick. It took him 3 minutes.

Australian Arulanantham Suresh Joachim holds many endurance records, including a drumming marathon (84 hours), the longest time standing still (76 hours 40 minutes), running 100 miles/161 kilometres on a treadmill (42 minutes and 33 seconds) and crawling one mile /1.6 kilometres (37 minutes and 17 seconds). In 2006 he announced his intention to run a mega-marathon through 54 countries in 181 days, a distance of over 6000 kilometres.

## Sulgrave 1899

If you are interested in high quality black and white photographs of properties and people in your village try the English Heritage, Veiwfinder website.

It is interesting to see how some houses have changed in use and appearance - the Six Bells and The Old Farmhouse are just two examples - while others look very much the same today. Culworth, Greatworth and Thorpe Mandeville villages are also well represented.



These crisp, photographs were taken during the construction of the railway through Sulgrave parish. Taking time out from his father's Leicester photo studio, SWA Newton spent four years recording village scenes and the civil engineering works along the whole length of the construction route from Nottingham to London.

*Peter Mackness*

## Sulgraves own "Time Team"

A Geophysical Survey of Castle Green

**Sunday 5th August 2007**

Come along and watch the experts - Archaeological surveying with Magnetometer and Earth Resistance equipment will commence at 10:30 am approx.

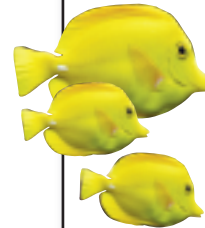
### Take part yourself.

Teams of volunteers will be taught to use the surveying equipment (Please phone in advance to book places).

### See the results in the afternoon

From 2:20 – 4:00 pm., Adrian Butler of Northants Archaeology will explain the techniques and show what has been discovered beneath the ground. See also the Archaeology Group's exhibition about the Sulgrave Castle Project

For further details please contact Clare Pollack, 01295 768224, or Martin Sirot-Smith, 01295 710340





## Circle Dancing

There will be another attempt to dance on Sulgrave Castle Mound on 23rd August, starting at 7 pm., at Kirkleys. Previously it was beautifully dry and sunny all day, until half an hour before the start time, and then the thunderstorm came. So – better luck next time.

*Clare Pollak*

## Women's Institute

On the 11th., July, as our familiar picnic venue, Manor Field - redesignated Castle Green - was closed for development work until further notice, we met in the garden of Jean and Bob Bates on a sunny July evening. We sat on the lawn in their lovely garden and enjoyed a sumptuous alfresco spread.

The meeting was to have been hosted by Ann Mackness, but unfortunately she broke her leg two days before. Our thoughts were with Ann and also with Angela Cherry our former president who is in Chacombe Nursing Home.

Our thanks to Jean for her hospitality.

This month the members are arranging the meeting as a surprise for the committee. We eagerly await.....

*Ann Mackness & Shrimp Christie*

## Church

This year our Harvest Festival Service will take place on Sunday September 9th at 6:00 pm. Our annual Harvest Supper will be in the Church Hall on Saturday September 6th. There will be a list in the shop, or you can ring Shrimp on 760214 and reserve a place. Adults are £6-00, and Children of Primary School age are £3-00.

*Shrimp Christie*

## The rainfall at Dial House Farm this early summer 2007

**Total for May** 130.0 mm 5 1/4" (Approx)

June 1st	4.0 mm
June 2nd to June 13th	0.0 mm
Then it started!	
June 14th to June 30th	133.0 mm

**Total for June** 137.0 mm 5 1/2" (Approx)

*Richard Cherry*

*I'll be interested in the figures for July!!! - ed.*



## THANKS

Eric and Hildegard Hollis wish to thank every one for the lovely gifts and cards they received on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding.

Thank you also to George and Julie Metcalfe for having us at their place, where we spent a delightful afternoon, with tea and delicious cakes helping us celebrate with them and our neighbours.

As time presses on we can be gently refreshed with memories of the occasions of our Diamond Wedding.

We send our love to you all,.

## Sulgrave Parish Council

**Chairman:** Mr G Robert, Westfield, Park Lane, Sulgrave, Oxon, OX17 2RX

**Parish Clerk:** Mrs C Coles, 55 Gillett Road, Banbury, Oxon, OX16 0DR,  
Tel No 01295 276229, Fax No 01295 276658, Email colesnccj@btinternet.com

## Notes from Parish Council Meeting held 12th July 2007

The Parish Council is made up of the following members and they can be contacted as follows:

Chairman – Cllr Graham Roberts (07778 584108)	Cllr Clare Pollak (01295 768224)
Vice-Chairman – Cllr David Kellett (07747 808574)	Cllr Jane Osborne (07879 624375)
Parish Clerk – Mrs Christine Coles (01295 276229)	Cllr Jo Powell (01295 768243)
	Cllr Andrew Waite (07787 502260)

## Councillors Reports

### New Councillors Training Course

Cllr Waite confirmed that he and Cllr Kellett had attended this course at Hunsbury Hill on 20th June. They found it very useful.

### Electrical Fence at The Paddocks, Culworth

The Clerk had reported the electrical fence at the Paddocks, Culworth to the Clerk of Culworth Parish Council. In a response by email, Mr Howse, the Culworth Parish Footpath Warden thanked the Parish Council and confirmed he has spoken to Mr Humphrey, the proprietor. Mr Humphrey has promised to put up signs on the fence and very much regrets that the person was injured. He sends his assurances that there is no danger of a double current with the equipment used. Cllr Powell agreed to pass this information onto Mrs Stuart who had reported it.

## Sulgrave Parish Council (continued)

### Pocket Park

Cllr Kellett had visited Pocket Park and confirmed the tressle did have a broken leg which appeared to be rotten. He felt there was no danger of it collapsing. It was not necessary to be taped off but should have mesh placed underneath to stop hands and feet getting caught. He felt it should be replaced in the long term. The ponds and paths are very overgrown and require strimming. In his opinion this was not a safety issue within the pond area as there is a fence around it and a sign which can be clearly seen. Access is heavily overgrown and requires strimming to clear the area.

The Chair noted that he had received a letter from Jill Barrett of Towrise expressing her concern generally in the area. The current grass contractor cuts the village grass but this does not include the Pocket Park. If he was asked to cut Pocket Park, an extra cost would be charged. Previously George Metcalfe has done a lot of work in the past in this area. He created a path which is now overgrown and the role of Pocket Park Warden has not been filled. A working party used to go into the area to clear it also. The Chair asked Cllr Kellett to look at producing a management plan for the area which he agreed to do and the Chair asked the Clerk to respond to Mrs Barrett's letter.

Cllr Kellett suggested that the woodland walkway which is an access path to the pond be strimmed. Cllr Powell proposed that Cllr Kellett be given authority to take the necessary action in clearing the area and to use the current grass contractor if necessary. This was seconded by Cllr Pollak and all the councillors voted in favour. The Clerk will forward contact details of Phillip Daynes, the grass contractor to Cllr Kellett.

Whilst discussing Pocket Park, the Clerk advised that some of the work on the Pocket Park play equipment has already taken place. The company who did the work are still awaiting for confirmation as to where the springer should be replaced. The Clerk will ask Kevin Moore if he can draw a sketch as he was involved with the work previously. Once all this has been done, the Clerk will instruct John Hicks to carry out a new inspection of the play area which should be done each year.

### Annual Report for Quality Council Status

The Annual Report has been produced and published by the Parish Council. There is a copy on the notice-board, copies are available in the shop and you can view it on the village website.

### Approval of Revised Code of Conduct

The revised code came into force on 2 April 2007 and authorities to whom it is applicable have six months in which to adopt it ie. by 1st October 2007. The provisions of the code are almost mandatory and the only action that authorities can take is to add provisions. Given the complexity of the Code as it stands the recommendation is that no additional provisions should be added. There is one exception to this. Paragraph 12(2) in the attached Code is not compulsory for parishes, although it is for District Councils. The effect of this paragraph is very important because it allows members of councils who have personal and prejudicial interests in matters being considered in meetings to stay and address the meeting, although not to vote, if a member of the public would have speaking rights at the same meeting. In this respect members will now not be more disadvantaged or disenfranchised than the public at large, which is a significant improvement on the previous Code.

The following resolution was then proposed by Cllr Roberts.

'That the Revised Code of Conduct applicable to Town/Parish Councils including paragraph 12.2 be adopted'. This was seconded by Cllr Pollak and all the councillors voted in favour.

## Sulgrave Parish Council (continued)

The Clerk will arrange for a notice to be placed in a local newspaper stating that the Parish Council has adopted the code and a copy is available for inspection.

Approval and Signature of Sections 1 and 2 of Annual Return 2006/7

The Clerk had circulated copies of the Annual Return and supporting documentation before the meeting. This is prior to the external audit which will take place in August.

Sections 1 and 2 were then approved and signed by the Clerk (Responsible Financial Officer) and Chair. This was proposed by Cllr Powell and seconded by Cllr Kellett. Appropriate audit notices would be placed on the notice-board in due course.

### Finance Report

a) Cheques

The following payments were approved:-

£195.00 to Mr R Fletcher (internal audit 2006/7)

£77.62 to ABB Lighting

£153.14 to Powergen

£41.70 to BT (fax)

£34.80 to Parish Clerk (colour copying of Annual Report)

£246.78 - Parish Clerk (hours)

£50.00 – Parish Clerk (float)

£31.62 – Parish Clerk (mileage)

### Update on Planning Applications

Cllr Waite gave an update on planning.

There are currently two new applications in circulation within the council.

1. S/2007/0794/P, Single Storey rear extension and pitched roof to garage at Little Tow.
2. S/2007/0855/P, Replacement of existing wooden cladding to side dormer window with PVC alternative at 1 Church Street.

The following decision notices had been received from SNC.

1. S/2007/0526/LB, Removal of existing UPVC conservatory and construction of new single storey garden room extension at the Old Stables, Manor Road. This application has been withdrawn.
2. S/2007/0656/LB and S/2007/0655/P, Single storey garden room to rear at the Old Vicarage, Magpie Road. This application has been withdrawn.

Amended Plans

S/2007/0577/P, Single Storey rear extension, garden shed at rear, and new 1.8 metre iron railings and wrought iron gates at the front at the Old Wesleyan Chapel, Manor Road.

Amended drawings were received for new fencing and new gates to the front. The Parish Council have now approved this amendment.

### Correspondence

A letter and cheque for £1000.00 was received from Sulgrave Charities to help fund the work in Pocket Park. Thanks was given to Sulgrave Charities and especially to Kevin Moore.

### Date and Time of next meeting

There will be no meeting in August. The next meeting date is Thursday 13th September at 7.30pm in the Church hall.

## August 2007

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1	2	<b>3</b> <b>Mums &amp; Tots</b> 1:30pm Church Hall	4	<b>5</b> <b>Benefice Holy Communion</b> 10:00 am C.Warden
6	7	8 <b>W.I. Meeting</b> 7:30pm Church Hall	9	10 <b>Mums &amp; Tots</b> 1:30pm Church Hall	11	12 <b>Holy Communion</b> 8:15 am Sulgrave
13	14	15	16	17 <b>Mums &amp; Tots</b> 1:30pm Church Hall	18	19 <b>Evensong</b> 6:00 pm Sulgrave
20	21	22	23 <b>Circle Dancing</b> Castle Hill, Sulgrave	24 <b>Mums &amp; Tots</b> 1:30pm Church Hall <b>DEADLINE</b> August Newsletter	25	26 <b>Mattins</b> 10:00 am Sulgrave
27 <b>Book Club</b> 8:00pm Star Inn	28	29	30	31 <b>Mums &amp; Tots</b> 1:30pm Church Hall	